DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMMING

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October 26, 2005

Mr. Gene K. Fong Division Administrator Federal Highway Administration 650 Capital Mall, Suite 4-100 Sacramento, CA 95814

Attention: Ms. Sue Kiser

Dear Ms. Kiser:

With this letter and pursuant to the authority delegated to me, I approve the following amendment of the Tulare County Association of Governments' (TCAG) 2004/05-2006/07 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP):

No. <u>Description</u>

12 Local Element

• This amendment adds a project in Tulare County. The project included in this amendment is funded with Hazard Elimination and Safety funds, Safe Routes to School funds, and redevelopment and County funds and will be used to add a new signal at the intersection of SR 63 and Ave 408 to improve safety and circulation. See enclosure.

I am also recommending that the Federal Highway Administration approve this FTIP Amendment No. 12 for inclusion into California's 2004/05-2006/07 Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (FSTIP). Projects included in this FTIP in fiscal years not within the three-year cycle of the current FSTIP are not approved as part of this FTIP amendment and are shown for information only.

The updated programming is for project types that have been found by TCAG to conform to applicable air quality regulations. Therefore, this FTIP amendment is consistent with the State Implementation Plan. These projects are included and submitted by TCAG through the California Transportation Improvement Program System (CTIPS). Caltrans concerns, if any, are reflected in the "Caltrans comment" section of the FTIP Project Data Entry screen in CTIPS project by project.

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The financial impacts of this amendment are compatible with anticipated revenues in the FSTIP Financial Plan and do not significantly affect the overall financial analysis. In accordance with existing law, public involvement procedures are a part of the project selection process. TCAG prepared this FTIP amendment under that process permitting citizens, affected local agencies, other public agencies, and other interested parties reasonable opportunity for comment.

Please address any questions on this FSTIP approval request to Penny Gray of my staff, at (916) 654-3521.

Sincerely,

ROSS A. CHITTENDEN

Chief

Division of Transportation Programming

Enclosures

c: Steven Barhite - EPA Office of Air Planning (w/enclosure)
George Finney - Tulare County Association of Governments
Ted Smalley - Tulare County Association of Governments
Rachel Falsetti - Caltrans
Penny Gray - Caltrans